

Message Text

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SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARING ON REFUGEE AND MIGRATION ASSISTANCE

REF: STATE 038851

1. APART FROM MODEST GOT CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR WMD SPECIAL ASSISTANCE TO TURKISH CYPRIOT REFUGEES WE DO NOT BELIEVE TURKEY IS SIGNIFICANT SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR MIGRANT AND REFUGEE ASSISTANCE. WE UNDERSTAND GOT PROVIDES SOME FUNDS IN GENERAL BUDGET FOR ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEE ETHNIC TURKS, PRIMARILY BULGARIANS, WHO ARE INDIGENT AND LIVING IN TUL EY. UNHCR INFORMED US THERE ARE ABOUT 1000 PERSONS IN THIS CATEGORY.

2. UNFORTUNATELY, BUDGET CATEGORIES DO NOT PROVIDE SPECIFIC FIGURES FOR REFUGEE AND MIGRANT ASSISTANCE. RATHER THESE FIGURES ARE PART OF LARGER TOTAL WHICH INCLUDES INTERNAL ASSISTANCE TO TURKISH VILLAGERS WHO MIGRATE BECAUSE OF FLOOD, EARTHQUAKE OR OTHER NATURAL DISASTER OR FUNDS FOR RESETTLEMENT OF "FOREST VILLAGERS" WHO ARE MOVED BY THE GOVERNMENT TO OTHER AREAS BECAUSE OF REFORESTATION AND FOREST CONSERVATION PROJECTS. FOR THIS REASON WE DO NOT FEEL IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO PINPOINT SPECIFIC FUNDS USED FOR REFUGEE

PROGRAMS.

MACOMBER

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